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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

OCT 2 1979

Docket No. 50-348

Mr. Alan R. Barton
Senior Vice President
Alabama Power Company
Post Office Box 2641
Birmingham, Alabama 35291

Dear Mr. Barton:

RE: JOSEPH M. FARLEY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT NO. 1

We are currently reviewing the adequacy of the offsite power systems of nuclear power plants and in particular, the loss of offsite power events at your facility. One aspect of this review concerns the history of experienced total and partial power outages and attendant degraded voltage or frequency conditions of the grid.

In our review of this matter we are drawing upon the information you provided in Licensee Event Reports (LERs) and followup letters to the NRC. Our review of a number of these LERs indicates that loss of offsite power has occurred at your facility on September 16, 1977 and August 12, 1978. In order to complete our review of loss of offsite power events we require response to the enclosed request for information.

We request that you provide your response within 90 days of the receipt of this letter.

Sincerely,

A. Schwencer, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #1
Division of Operating Reactors

Enclosure:
Request for Information

cc: w/enclosure
See next page

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Mr. Alan R. Barton
Alabama Power Company

cc: Ruble A. Thomas, Vice President
Southern Services, Inc.
Post Office Box 2625
Birmingham, Alabama 35202

George F. Trowbridge, Esquire
Shaw, Pittman, Potts and Trowbridge
1800 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

John Bingham, Esquire
Balch, Bingham, Baker, Hawthorne,
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600 North 18th Street
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Keiler and Buckley
9047 Jefferson Highway
River Ridge, Louisiana 70123

George S. Houston Memorial Library
212 W. Burdeshaw Street
Dothan, Alabama 36303

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ATTACHMENT

- A. For losses of offsite power where less than all offsite power was lost:
1. How many circuits to the offsite network are normally available and how many were lost during the event?
 2. What was the cause of the event?
 3. Why did the other lines not fail when some did fail?
 4. Was any voltage increase or decrease experienced just prior to or during the outage? If so, please give details, voltages reached, affects, etc.
 5. Was any frequency decay experienced just prior to or during the outage? If so, please give details, lowest frequency reached, decay rate, affects on equipment operation, etc.
 6. How long was power unavailable from the circuit?
 7. Date of Event.
- B. For losses of all offsite power:
1. How long was the power off? How long for partial recovery? Please give details.
 2. If turbine trip occurred, how soon after did loss of offsite power occur?
 3. If power was recovered promptly (10 minutes or less), was it due to automatic or manual actions?
 4. Was any voltage increase or decrease experienced just prior to or during the outage? If so, please give details, voltages reached, affects, etc.
 5. Was any frequency decay experienced just prior to or during the outage? If so, please give details, lowest frequency reached, decay rate, affects on equipment operation, etc.
 6. Date of Event.
- C. Were there any other loss of offsite power events other than we have listed? If so, please give details of each event.